

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed on November 23, 2004, Applicants respectfully requests reconsideration. Claims 1-12, 14-27 and 29-34 are now pending in this Application. Claims 1, 11, 14, 15, 26, and 29-34 independent claims and the remaining claims are dependent claims. In this Amendment, claims 1, 11, 14, 15, 26, and 29-34 have been amended and claims 13 and 28 have been cancelled. Applicant(s) believe that the claims as presented are in condition for allowance. A notice to this affect is respectfully requested.

The Application was considered informal because the Abstract exceeded 150 words in length. Applicant has amended the Abstract to cure this minor informality. The new Abstract which replaces the originally filed Abstract includes 150 words or less. Accordingly, the application should be considered as formal.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-10, 15-25, 30 and 33 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 1, 15, 30 and 33 have been amended to remove the language described as indefinite by the Examiner. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 1-10, 15-25, 30 and 33 under §112, second paragraph, is believed to have been overcome.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-14 under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Independent claims 1, 11 and 14 have been amended to provide positive recitation within the body of the claims of an order processing system for performing the steps comprising the invention. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 1-14 under §101 is believed to have been overcome.

Claims 1-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over QAD Inc.'s MFG/PRO eB and eQ Order Management solutions, QAD.com: Application datasheets, Sales and distribution and Product pages and QAD

Storefront Informational White Paper, A solution space approach white paper and Collaborative Applications Power B2B Transactions (hereinafter collectively QAD) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,191,534 to Orr et al. (hereinafter Orr).

QAD discloses an order management system for processing orders and changes to orders. Orr discloses a system and method for controlling, monitoring, and integrating engineering and manufacturing changes in a manufacturing enterprise. Neither of QAD or Orr, taken alone or in combination, disclose or suggest an order management system wherein a determination is made regarding whether any other attributes related to a peer object are changed based on a new value, and if so, then invoking comparison logic on the peer objects related to those other attributes to produce a change order result indicating the differences between those other attributes.

In contrast to QAD and Orr, claim 1 has been amended to include the step of determining if any other attributes related to the change order are changed based on the change order, and if the other attributes are changed, then supplementing the change order result to indicate the differences between those other attributes. Support for this can be found in the specification as filed at page 15, lines 13-27, wherein, for example, a change to an order regarding the quantity of object ordered also changes the cost of the items in the order. Accordingly, a requested change may result in multiple other changes taking place with respect to the change order. Neither QAD nor Orr disclose or suggest such, therefore amended claim 1 is believed allowable over QAD and Orr. Claims 11, 14, 15, 26 and 29-34 have been amended in a similar manner, and for the same reasons are believed allowable over QAD and Orr. Claims 13 and 28 have been cancelled. Claims 2-10, 12, 16-25 and 27 depend from amended claims 1, 11, 14, 15 or 26 and are believed allowable as they depend from a base claim which is believed allowable.

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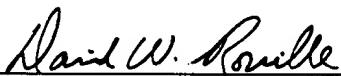
The prior art made of record is not believed to disclose or suggest the present invention.

In view of the above, the Examiner's objections and rejections are believed to have been overcome placing claims 1-12, 14-27 and 28-34 in condition for allowance, and reconsideration and allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

If the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office deems a fee necessary, this fee may be charged to the account of the undersigned, Deposit Account No. 50-0901.

If the enclosed papers or fees are considered incomplete, the Patent Office is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned collect at (508) 366-9600, in Westborough, Massachusetts.

Respectfully submitted,



David W. Rouille
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No.: 40,150
CHAPIN & HUANG, L.L.C.
Westborough Office Park
1700 West Park Drive
Westborough, Massachusetts 01581
Telephone: (508) 366-9600
Facsimile: (508) 616-9805
Customer No.: 022468

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